

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 AID-20 PC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03 H-03

NIC-01 SS-15 RSR-01 /100 W

----- 056405

R 101500Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3587

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0542

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/31/76

TAGS: PINT, SOCI, SF

SUBJ: DEVELOPMENTS AT AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

REF: CAPE TOWN 536

1. EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE ON SEVERAL FRONTS TO END DEADLOCK BETWEEN STUDENTS AND THE ADMINISTRATION AT (AFRICAN) UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE IN ALICE FOLLOWING SUSPENSION OF 159 STUDENTS AND SUBSEQUENT DEPARTURE OF MAJORITY OF STUDENTS FROM CAMPUS.

2. STUDENTS THEMSELVES HAVE SET UP ACTION COMMITTEES IN SEVERAL CENTERS TO ORGANIZE SUPPORT FROM THEIR PARENTS AND SYMPATHIZERS TO BACK STUDENT DEMAND FOR UNCONDITIONAL REINSTATEMENT OF ALL SUSPENDED STUDENTS. HOWEVER IT IS EVIDENT FROM CONGEN'S DISCUSSION WITH MEMBER OF CAPE TOWN ACTION COMMITTEE THAT STUDENTS ARE SERIOUSLY HAMPERED AMONG OTHER THINGS BY LACK OF FUNDS AND LACK OF ADEQUATE TELEPHONE FACILITIES BETWEEN AFRICAN AREAS. IF DISPUTE NOT SETTLED SOON MOST WILL BE LOOKING FOR JOBS.

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PARENTS ARE HURTING FINANCIALLY HAVING RECENTLY PAID FINAL

TERM FEES OF 80 RAND (DOLS120) FOR BOARDERS AND ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO REIMBURSE TRAIN FARES.

3. EFFECTIVE ACTION WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO COME FROM OTHER SOURCES. FORT HARE RECTOR DE WET MET AUGUST 8 FOR THREE HOURS WITH TRANSKEI AND CISKEI EDUCATION MINISTERS AND TRANSKEI MINISTER OF JUSTICE. MINISTERS ARE REPORTING BACK TO THEIR RESPECTIVE CABINETS. ON ANOTHER FRONT STUDENT REPS WERE TO MEET SA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES REPRESENTATIVES IN JOHANNESBURG. A THIRD APPROACH INVOLVED ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN SELBY TAYLOR WHO ON AUGUST 8 VISITED FEDERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WHICH ADJOINS BUT IS ENTIRELY SEPARATE FROM FORT HARE. (SEMINARY STUDENTS HAVE BEEN STAYING FROM CLASSES IN SYMPATHY WITH SUSPENDED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.) PROPOSAL BEING STUDIED IS THAT CHURCHES REPRESENTED AT SEMINARY (ANGLICAN, METHODIST, CONGREGATIONAL AND PRESBYTERIAN) SHOULD NEGOTIATE WITH UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND POSSIBLE SAG ON BEHALF OF FORT HARE STUDENTS. ARCHBISHOP CONFIRMED TO CONGEN THAT EFFORT ALONG THESE LINES IS PROCEEDING BUT HE THINKS IT MAY NOT BE WELCOME. (COMMENT: PORT HARE AND SEMINARY ARE STILL FEUDING OVER FORMER'S ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER SEMINARY LAND AND BUILDINGS WHICH SEMINARY VIEWS AS THINLY DISGUISED ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE THIS LIBERAL INSTITUTION. SEE CAPE TOWN A-59, DECEMBER 22, 1972.)
ONEILL.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAPET00542
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730846/aaaabhnq.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CAPE TOWN 536
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEVELOPMENTS AT AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE
TAGS: PINT, SOCI, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005